

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-06 /087 W

----- 072407

R 160418Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4674

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, SF, PFOR

SUBJ: PRESS ALLEGATION THAT US URGED SOUTH AFRICA TO
WAIT FOR AUSTRALIAN UNGA PRESIDENT

REF: A) CANBERRA 7562 B) STATE 256690

1. EMBASSY REVIEWED WITH DFA ON DEC 16 AUSTRALIAN PRESS REPORT, PUBLISHED NOV 19 (REF A), WHICH STATED THAT U.S. HAD ADVISED SOUTH AFRICA NOT RPT NOT TOWITHDRAW FROM UN BUT TO HOLD OUT FOR AUSTRALIAN GA PRESIDENT IN 1975. DFA (PIPER, FIRST ASST SECRETARY, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIVISION) TOLD EMBOFF IT HAD MADE INQUIRIES IN NEW YORK AND PRETORIA AND WAS SATISFIED THAT PRESS REPORT WAS ERRONEOUS. EMBOFF REPEATED TO PIPER SUBSTANCE OF STATEMENTS IN PARA 3 OF REF B.

2. GOING INTO SUBSTANCE OF ISSUE, HOWEVER, PIPER SAID THAT AUSTRALIAN MIN FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS WILLESEE HAD ASKED DFA TO STUDY WHOLE ISSUE OF HAMBRO OR BOUTEFLIKA TYPE RULING ON SOUTH AFRICAN CREDENTIALS. WHILE STUDY NOT RPT NOT YET COMPLETED, PIPER NOTED THAT AUSTRALIAN PREFERENCE IS TO USE PROVISIONS OF CHARTER ON SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION

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(ARTICLES 5 OR 6) AS THEY WERE INTENDED TO BE USED, RATHER

THAN TO BY-PASS THEM, AS BOUTEFELIKA DID. HOWEVER, HE NOTED THAT BOUTEFELIKA RULING ON SOUTH AFRICAN CREDENTIALS WAS CHALLENGED IN GA AND THAT CHALLENGE WAS DEFEATED BY AFRICAN-LED MAJORITY. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WHICH HE ASSUMED WOULD CONTINUE TO APPLY IN FUTURE, THERE WILL BE LITTLE POINT IN WILLESEE REPEATING HAMBRO RULING, IF THAT RULING IS SUBSEQUENTLY REPUDIATED BY AFRICAN-LED MAJORITY IN UNGA. PIPER SAID HE THOUGHT DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA ITSELF OVER NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS WILL HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON ATTITUDE OF NEXT UNGA TOWARDS SOUTH AFRICAN CREDENTIALS. IN THE ABSENCE OF SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN IMPROVING STATUS OF BLACKS IN SOUTH AFRICA, PIPER ANTICIPATED ACTION BY AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO INTRODUCE SANCTIONS AGAINST GSAR AT NEXT UNGA.

3. ON WILLESEE CANDIDACY, PIPER SAID HE HAD NOTHING NEW TO ADD, COMMENTING THAT AUSTRALIA STILL IS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT HIS CANDIDACY. HOWEVER, PIPER RECALLED THAT AUSTRALIAN RADIO DEC 13 CARRIED REPORT THAT THERE IS GROWING INTEREST IN NEW YORK IN CANDIDACY OF LUXEMBOURG FOREIGN MINISTER THORN AS NEXT GA PRESIDENT. DFA HAD ASKED AUSTRALIAN UN MISSION FOR ITS COMMENTS ON RADIO REPORT. PIPER NOTED THAT THORN CANDIDACY WOULD NOT BE OPEN TO KIND OF ATTACK THAT FACES TURKISH CANDIDATE, ARISING OUT OF CYPRUS PROBLEM.
GREEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP, PRESIDENT, PRESS COMMENTS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CANBER08102
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740364-0402
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741233/aaaabbxz.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 74 CANBERRA 7562, 74 STATE 256690
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUL 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <24 MAR 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS ALLEGATION THAT US URGED SOUTH AFRICA TO WAIT FOR AUSTRALIAN UNGA PRESIDENT
TAGS: PFOR, SF, AS, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005